

Fourth Sunday of Advent: Love
Sunday, December 19, 2021



Kate Cosgrove, American

Pageant Sunday

Welcome to worship at Faith Presbyterian Church! We are glad you are joining us this morning. Whoever you are, wherever you come from, whomever you love, whatever your faith or your doubt, we welcome all whom God welcomes, and that means you. As we begin our time together, take a few deep breaths and settle in, to make the transition from getting here to being here, and to prepare your mind and body for worship.

**Faith Presbyterian Church
ORDER OF WORSHIP**

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Cat Dodson Goodrich

Joys and Concerns **

GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Prelude *Ding Dong! Merrily on High*

setting Richard Lind
(b. 1943)

**Please rise in body or in spirit; unison parts are in bold.*

***Call to Worship** ¹

The world may say, "All is lost."

God says, "All is loved."

The darkness may say, "The light is dying."

The light says, "The fire is catching."

Fear may say, "cover your eyes and your ears."

Hope says, "wait, watch, and listen!"

We wait in hope for the One who brings love, light, and joy!

***Hymn 107** *Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn*

REJOICE, REJOICE

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

God of grace, in Christ you became a child among us, bringing love to a lonely world. We confess that we have been distracted, weary from work and weighed down by fear; we have missed the signs of your coming. We haven't made time to watch the skies, seeking the star with wonder and hope. Forgive us, we pray! Clear a place within us so that something new might be born in and through us. We open our hearts to you in silent prayer...

Kyrie 92 *While We Are Waiting, Come*

WAITING

1 While we are wait - ing, come;
while we are wait - ing, come.
Je - sus, our Lord, Em - man - u - el,
while we are wait - ing, come.

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of four systems, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. The lyrics are: "1 While we are wait - ing, come; while we are wait - ing, come. Je - sus, our Lord, Em - man - u - el, while we are wait - ing, come." The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords that support the vocal melody.

Assurance of Grace

*Gloria 646 *Sing Out, My Soul*

MAGNIFICAT

Sing out, my soul. Sing out, my soul. Sing out and
glo - ri - fy the Lord who sets us free. Sing out, my soul.
Sing out, my soul. Sing out and glo - ri - fy the Lord God!

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of three systems, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "Sing out, my soul. Sing out, my soul. Sing out and glo - ri - fy the Lord who sets us free. Sing out, my soul. Sing out, my soul. Sing out and glo - ri - fy the Lord God!" The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords that support the vocal melody.

Lighting the Advent Candle

Zach, Sarah, Josie, and Robbie Nemser

Congregation responds:

Congregation: Let us prepare with love, light candles and pray: Come, Emmanuel!
the candles are lit

Creative Advent Prayer

As a sign of our preparation for Christ's coming, we are creating a window with our prayers. We invite you to come add color to the window, to show our hope in God's promise of a world made new.

***Hymn 85** *Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah*

TIF IN VELDELE

***Hymn 138** *Who Would Think that What Was Needed*

WHITE ROSETTES



2021 Christmas Pageant

"God with Us"

by Susan Johnston

Narrator: Peyton Lemon

Musicians: Dr. Samuel Springer, Gabriella Anthony, Susan Minor, Sarah Nemser

Angel Choir: The Chancel Choir

Scene 1 Youth Group Gathered

Cast: in order of appearance

Carly Burd
Sydney Williams
Jaileel Tomlinson
Campbell Burd
Autumn Paige
Maddie Goodrich

Delivery –

Ethan Scoggin
Nate Scoggin

Scene 2 The Next Week

Cast:

Towering Angels –
Gabriella Anthony (Teller)
Ashton Kendall (Hark)
Veronica Herber (Glory)
James Herber (Herald)

Costume Delivery –

Karen Burd
Robin Nemser

Children –

Gillian Goodrich
Nixon Hill
Josie Nemser

Scene 3 Video

Cast:

Wise Ones

Bennett Seavers-Reale
Hudson Seavers-Reale
Ivy Rose Seavers-Reale
Linden Seavers-Reale

Scene 4 The Pageant!

Hymn 121 *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

ST. LOUIS

Christ has come! Be born in us today!
Enter our hearts. Be born in us today!



RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Affirmation of Faith *Excerpted from The PCUSA Study Catechism*

How can Jesus be truly God and yet also truly human at the same time? The mystery of Jesus Christ's divine-human unity passes our understanding; only faith given by the Holy Spirit enables us to affirm it.

When Holy Scripture depicts Jesus as someone with divine power, status and authority, it presupposes his humanity. And when it depicts him as someone with human weakness, neediness and mortality, it presupposes his deity.

We cannot understand how this should be, but we can trust that the God who made heaven and earth is free to become God incarnate and thus to be God with us in this wonderful and awe-inspiring way.

Invitation to the Offering

If you wish to contribute online, please scan the QR code with your mobile device to be directed to Faith's online giving site.



Offertory *Those Gospel Angels*

Greg Gilpin
(b. 1964)

Prayers of the People and Our Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

SENDING GOD'S PEOPLE INTO THE WORLD

***Hymn 110** *Love Has Come*

BRING A TORCH

***Charge and Benediction**

Postlude *Go, Tell It on the Mountain*

Richard Elliott
(b. 1957)

¹ Adapted from Call to Worship: Lectionary Aids for 2021-2022, Year C, Vol 55.1. Kimberly Braken Long, ed. p. 17

LEADING WORSHIP TODAY

Rev. Cat Dodson Goodrich, *Pastor*
Dr. Samuel Springer, *Minister of Music and Organist*
Liturgist
Andy Fuller, *Audio/Camera Operator*
Mozella Williams, *Zoom Moderator*
Dawn Shirey, *PowerPoint Operator*

****Joys and Concerns:** We are a community who prays with and for each other. There is a book in the narthex where you may write your joys and concerns, to be included in the Prayers of the People and shared in our weekly prayer chain email. If you would like to be added to the prayer chain email: faithchurchbalt@gmail.com

This week we pray for:

Neal Hairston
John Reale and the Seavers-Reale family
Robert Ingram

Ann Scheck
Faith's homebound members

Announcements

A Service of the Longest Night *Wednesday, December 21 at 6:00 in the Chapel*

The winter solstice marks longest night of the year. In this service, we will make space for grief and lament after a difficult year while holding fast to Advent hope in God's promises through scripture, silence, and song.

Christmas Eve Worship *December 24 at 5:00*

Celebrate Christ's birth with candlelight and communion.

Carol Sing *December 26*

Choose a verse of favorite carol and make a joyful noise with your friends and family at Faith!

Wednesday Bible Study *11:00 a.m. in Woodbourne Room & Zoom*

Join Cat every Wednesday to reflect on the coming Sunday's lectionary passage. All are welcome!

Hand Bells and Chancel Choir *Rehearsal Thursdays*

The Faith Bell Choir rehearses at 6pm. Never played bells? We'll teach you everything you need to know. You get to wear white gloves and be a part of a fun-loving bunch. The Chancel Choir rehearses at 7pm, come and make a joyful noise with your friends at Faith!

Welcoming Visitors to Faith Church

Visitors are welcome at Faith – we are a community that seeks, stands, and serves together. If you would like to learn more about how to join us in that ministry by becoming a member of our congregation, email the pastor Cat Goodrich, cgoodrichpcbalt@gmail.com.

Prayground – children are welcome at Faith! At the front of the sanctuary, there is a *Prayground* for younger ones. There you will find books, coloring pages, children’s bulletins, and other quiet activities to keep small hands busy during worship.

Restroom – the closest restroom is outside the door at the front of the sanctuary (by the pulpit), just turn right.



Christmas Flowers and Funds

During this festive season, we ask you to remember friends and loved ones with a contribution. Poinsettias will grace the chancel and be delivered to our care list or you may choose to take yours. Your contributions to Music, Bread and DEAR Funds reflect Faith's mission. Your memorials and celebrations will be published in the Christmas Eve bulletin.

Name _____ Envelope # _____

Poinsettias

Orders must be received by **December 19**. _____ Poinsettia(s), donation \$15.00 each

Please circle one
In Memory/Celebration of

Please circle one
In Memory/Celebration of

Flower Donation Enclosed \$ _____

Faith's Music Ministry *supports the music ministry*

Please circle one
In Memory/Celebration of

Please circle one
In Memory/Celebration of

Music Ministry Donation Enclosed \$ _____

Faith's Bread Fund *provides food for those in need.*

Please circle one
In Memory/Celebration of

Please circle one
In Memory/Celebration of

Bread Donation Enclosed \$ _____

DEAR (Deacons Emergency Assistance Resource) *provides assistance to Faith Church members.*

Please circle one
In Memory/Celebration of

Please circle one
In Memory/Celebration of

DEAR Donation Enclosed \$ _____

Please mail to the church office along with your donation or place in the offering. Please designate "flowers," "music," "bread fund" or "DEAR" on the memo line of your check

